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REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 18, 2006. Claims 1-12 and 14-19 remain in the application. Claims 1, 8 and 14 are in independent form, and have been amended herein. Claim 13 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Amended claim 1 recites a bingo game generator that includes an animation drawing subsystem located at a bingo web server. Support for this feature can be found in the original specification at the last paragraph on page 18 continuing onto page 19. Therefore, no new matter is presented by this Amendment.

Claim 13 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as unpatentable for allegedly failing to be embodied to a tangible medium "such as floppy disks or the like." Claim 13 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer thereby obviating the Examiner's rejection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,955,604 (Graves). The Examiner asserts that Graves teaches the invention of a bingo game apparatus that comprises a random number generator which provides the sequence of numbers for the bingo game, an animation drawing subsystem which prerecorded video clips are played corresponding to each drawn bingo number, and a remote point of sale site where participants purchase bingo tickets electronically through a remote computer before the game starts.

Independent claim 1, as amended, relates to a lottery bingo system graphically portraying an animated bingo game comprising at least one lottery terminal configured to dispense bingo tickets to a player. The animated bingo game additionally comprises a bingo game generator located at a bingo web server including an animation drawing subsystem.

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The animation drawing subsystem retrieves bingo call video segments corresponding to a sequence of drawn bingo numbers randomly drawn for a bingo game after dispensing of bingo tickets for the bingo game is ended at the at least one lottery terminal and compiles the bingo call video segments into a bingo game video. The bingo game generator is provided at a bingo web server and accordingly, the bingo call video segments are compiled into a bingo game video at the server-side.

Graves relates to a system for providing a representation of a live bingo game. A client-side computer at a remote location receives inputs consisting of numbers drawn and serial numbers of claimed winning cards. An application at the client computer responds to the inputs provided by the server to arrange video clips stored at the client-side (see, for example, col. 5, line 60 — col. 6, line 4).

Graves fails to teach the bingo game generator that includes the animation drawing subsystem located at a bingo web server. In Graves, video clips are stored and combined on the client-side rather than on a server. For example, Fig. 7 of Graves shows a library of prerecorded audio/video clips 80 located at the remote location corresponding to the client-side rather than at the base location corresponding to the server-side. Accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated by the cited art for at least the reasons cited above. Applicants therefore request that the pending anticipation rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Graves fails to suggest that the bingo game generator that includes the animation drawing subsystem is located at a bingo web server. There is no mention in Graves that an animation drawing subsystem can be located at the server-side. Thus, Graves fails to provide any motivation to combine its system with an animation drawing subsystem located at the server-side.

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Additionally, Graves teaches away from locating the bingo game generator including the animation drawing subsystem at a bingo web server because Graves envisions client computers connected through a dial-up internet connection, and seeks to minimize the amount of data that is transmitted to the client by having the video clips stored and combined at the client computer (see, for example, cols. 5 and 6).

Graves also teaches away from locating the bingo game generator including the animation drawing subsystem at a bingo web server because in Graves, the bingo game is carried out live at the base location (corresponding to the server-side) and game participants at that location are intended to watch the game live rather than watching the combined video clips. Therefore, because participants at remote locations view remotely combined video clips and participants at the live location view the live game, there would be no need for an animation drawing subsystem to be located at the server-side and thus no motivation to combine. Accordingly, Applicants submit that amended claim 1 is non-obvious over the cited art of record. Notification of the allowability of claims 1-12 and 14-19 is therefore respectfully requested.

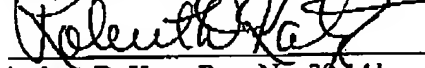
In view of these remarks, applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants earnestly solicit notice to that effect.

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If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, applicants hereby request same, and authorize the Commissioner to charge the fee therefore, as well as any fees that may be required in connection with this amendment to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

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Respectfully submitted,



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